

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
1 September 2005 (01.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/081372 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H01S 5/00**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2005/000608

(22) International Filing Date: 21 February 2005 (21.02.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0403865.9 20 February 2004 (20.02.2004) GB

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

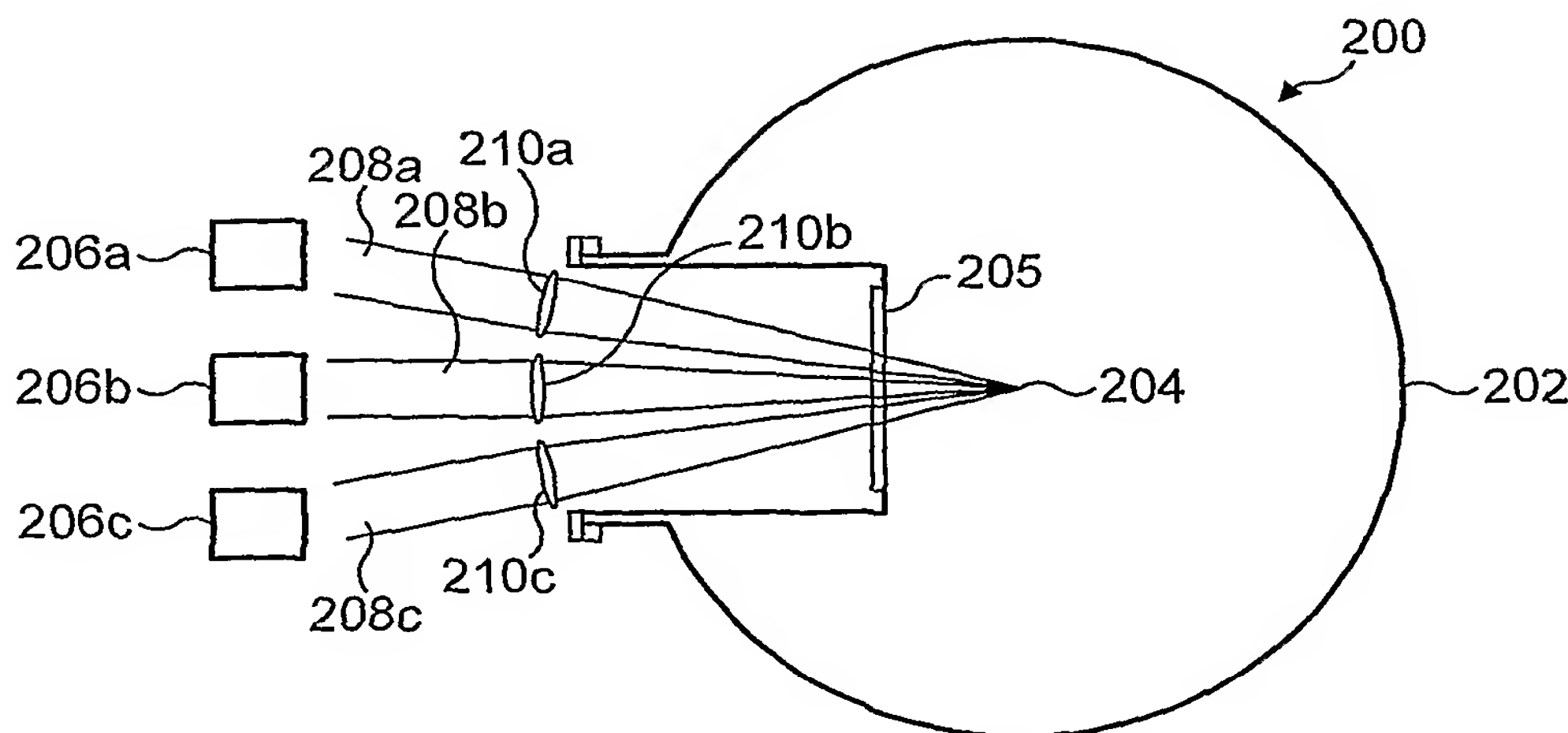
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: LASER MULTIPLEXING



(57) Abstract: A laser multiplexing system and method for use with high power pulsed lasers in Extreme Ultraviolet Lithography. In a first embodiment, a high power EUV laser multiplexing element (200) for laser produced plasma generation comprises a compound lens comprising at least two focusing elements (210) arranged to focus at least two respective laser beams (208) to a focal point (204) on a common workpiece. In a second embodiment, a laser multiplexing apparatus comprises at least two pulsed laser sources for generating pulsed laser beams and a temporal multiplexing element (302) arranged to temporally interleave at least two pulsed laser beams (300). In a third embodiment, laser multiplexing assembly comprises a beam shaping element (401) in which the beam shaping element is arranged to direct a first laser beam (406a) along an axis common with a second laser beam (406b) axis onto a common focussing element (405) arranged about said common axis.



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